

MIST's Clofet

BROKE OPEN:

OR, SEVERAL

LETTERS intercepted;

In which are contain'd,

Some old TRUTHS new told.

The LETTERS are as follow:

Caleb D'Anvers to Mist.
B—ll—ke to Mist.
From Oxford to Mist.
Captain Johnson to Mist.
From France to Mist.
From Spain to Mist.
From Rome to Mist.
From Germany to Mist.
From Roan to Mist.

Mist to the B— of R—ch—r.
Mist to Bingley.
Mist to the D— of W—t—n.
Mist to Miss ———
Mist to Captain Johnson.
Mist to a Brother Printer.

L O N D O N:

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THE HISTORY OF

THE UNITED STATES

OF AMERICA

FROM 1776 TO 1876



MIST's Closet

BROKE OPEN.

Court News from CALEB D'ANVERS
to MIST.



O be always safe is the best
Plot: And Virtue will al-
ways clear her Way. Vice
is ever behind-hand with
itself. Wit and a Woman
are two frail Things; and both the
frailer by concurring. The Nature of
Love, is to be sick in one Part, and
cured by another. 'Tis the Madness
B of

of Jealousy to be diligent, and yet hope to lose its Labour. Women, for the most part, are but the same Meaning put in different Words. Every Man is weak in his own Humours. A Man a little beyond himself, is a Fool. Affectation is a more ridiculous Part of Folly than Ignorance. Money is nothing but a Thing which Art hath turned up Trump. Custom hath so far prevailed, that Truth is at present the greatest News. Happiness and Misery are Antipodes. Goodness is not Felicity, but the Road thither. Man's Life is but a Vicissitude of Falling and Rising. Only to refrain Ill, is to be ill still. Enjoying is the Preparative to Contemning. He that seeks Opinion beyond Merit, goes just so far back. To study Men, is more profitable than Books. Titles of Honour are Rattles, to still Ambition. To be a King, is Fame's Butt, and Fear's Quiver. The Souls of Women and Lovers are wrapt in the Portmanteau of their Senses. Wit is the Web, and Wisdom the Woof
of

of the Cloth; so that Womens Souls were never made up. Envy knows what it will not confes. Goodness is like the Art *Prospective*, one Point Center begetting infinite Rays. Man, Woman, and the Devil, are the three Degrees of Comparison. Poverty is here the greatest Dishonesty.

*Country News from B--LL---KE
to MIST.*

THERE's more News in the Country than Town; for it gathers in going. Reputation is measured by the Acre. Roast Beef is the best Smell: And a Justice of Peace is the best Relick of Idolatry. That Allegory of Justice drawn blind, is turned the wrong Way. We love Men better than Titles. To hold in Knight's Service, is a slippery Service. A Male-Content is a new

Word for a Traytor. Wisdom is no entail'd Estate. The Emulation of the *English* and *Scots* to be the King's Countrymen, thrust the Honour on the *Germans*. A Courtier never attains his Self-Knowledge, but by Report: His best Emblem is a Spaniel Dog. Many great Men are so proud, that they know not their own Fathers. A Woman is the Effect of her own first Fame. To remember, to know, and to understand, are three Degrees not understood. Country Ambition is no Vice. To live long, is to fill up the Days we live. The Zeal of some Mens Religion reflects from their Friends. The Pleasure of Vice is Indulgence of the present; for it endures but the acting. The proper Reward of Goodness is from within, the external is Policy. Good and Ill is the Cross and Pile in the Aim of Life. Authority presseth down with Weight, and is thought Violence. Policy trips up the Heels, and is called Dexterity. This Life is a Throng

Throng in a narrow Passage; he that is first out, finds Ease; he in the Middle worst hem'd in with Troubles; the Hindmost, that drives both out afore him, though not suffering Wrong, hath his Part in doing Wrong. God requires of our Debts a Reckoning, not Payment. Heaven is the easiest Purchase; for we are the richer for disbursing. Liberality should have no Object but the Poor, if our Minds were rich. The Mystery of Greatness, is to keep the Inferior ignorant. The City cares not what the Country thinks.

There is a Fripery of Courtiers, and others, which have been in Fashion, and are very near worn out. Underlings have the Felling of Underwoods, but their Lords have the great Falls. Whores are like Abricots heretofore, here and there one in a great Man's House, and cost dear; but now you may have them for nothing in every Cottage. Every great Vice is a Pike in a Pond, that devours Virtues,

tues, and less Vices. It is wholesomest getting a Stomach by walking on your own Ground; and the thriftest of satisfying it at another's Table. Atheists in Affliction, like blind Beggars, are forced to ask, though they know not of whom. There are (God be thanked) not two such Acres in all the Country as the *Exchange* and *Westminster-Hall*. Women are not so tender Fruit, but that they do as well, and bear as well upon Beds, as plashed against Walls. Our Carts are never worse employ'd, than when they are waiting upon Courtiers. Sentences in Authors, like Hairs in Horse-Tails, concur in one Root of Beauty and Strength; but being pluck'd out one by one, serve only for Springs and Snares. I am sure there is none of the forbidden Fruit left, because we do not all eat thereof. Our best three-pil'd Mischief comes from beyond the Sea, and rides post through the Country; but his Errand is to Court. That next to no Wife and Children,
your

your own are the best Pastime. Statesmen hunt Fortune, and are often at Default ; Favourites course her, and are ever in View. Here is no Treachery nor Fidelity ; but it is because here are no Secrets. Court Motions are up and down ; ours circular: Theirs, like Squibs, cannot stay at the highest, nor return to the Place which they rose from, but vanish and wear out in the Way : Ours, like Mill-wheels, busy without changing Place: They have peremptory Fortunes; we Vicissitudes. The five Senses are Cinque-Ports for Temptation ; the Traffick Sin, the Lieutenant Satan, the Custom-Tribute Souls. Those which dwell under the Torrid Zone are troubled with more Damps, than those under the Frigid Zone. Policy hath now of late her Mask rent from her Face, and she is found with a wry Mouth and a stinking Breath ; and those that courted
her

her hotly, hate her now in the same Degree, or beyond. Those are thought the Wise-ones, who hold to the Superficies of Virtue to support her contrary. Thought of the Future is retired into the Country; and Time present dwells at Court. I living near the Church-Yard, where many are buried of the Pest, yet my Infection cometh from *Spain*; and it is feared will disperse farther into the Kingdom. Man is the Cook of Time, and made Dresser of his own Fattening. The Citizens of the High Court grow rich by Simplicity; but those of *London* by simple Craft.

From

*News from the University of Oxford
to MIST.*

A Meer Scholar is a living Book. Action does express Knowledge better than Words: So much of the Soul is lost, as the Body cannot utter. To teach should rather be an Effect, than the Purpose of Learning. Age decays Nature, but perfects Art; therefore the Glory of Youth is Strength, of the grey Head Wisdom: Most condemn the Follies of their own Infancy, run after those of the World's, and in Reverence of Antiquity, will bear an old Error against a new Truth. Logick is the Heraldry of Arts, the Array of Judgment; none itself, nor any Science without it. Discretion contains the best Rhetorick; the newest Philosophy is foundest. Astronomy begins
C in

in Nature, ends in Magick. Nothing dies but Qualities. All Parts help one another (like States) for particular Interest: So in Arts, which are but Translations of Nature, there is no sound Position in any one, which, imagine false, there may not from it be drawn strong Conclusions to disprove all the rest. When one Truth is granted, it may be by direct Means brought to confirm another controverted. The Soul and Body of the first Man were made fit to be immortal together: We cannot live to the one, but we must die to the other. A Man and a Christian are, now-a-days, two Creatures. Our Perfection in this World is Virtue; in the next Knowledge.

Sea-News from Capt. JOHNSON to MIST.

UNIFORMITY is a better Prospect than Variety. Putting to Sea is change of Livelihood, but not of Condition ; where Risings and Fallings, Calms and Cross-Gales are yours in Order and Turn, Fore-Winds but by Chance. It may be better to have any Wind, than no Wind at all. Your smooth-fac'd Courtier, dreading your Course, by a Calm gives greater Impediment than an open Enemy's Cross-Gale. Levity is a Virtue ; for many are held up by it. It's neither so intricate or infinite to rigg a Ship, as a Woman ; the more either is fraught, the apter they are to leak ; to pump the one, and shreeve the other, is alike noisome. Small Faults habituated, are as dangerous as little Leaks unfound. To punish, and not to prevent, is to labour in the Pump, and leave the Leak open. It is best striking Sail before a Storm, and
neces-

necessariest in it. To him that hath no
 Haven, no Wind is friendly ; and yet
 it is better to have no Haven, than a
 bad Conscience. Expedition is every
 where to be brib'd but at Sea. The
 Sound of Commodity drowns the Noise
 of a Storm, especially of an absent one.
 I have once in my Life out-gone Night
 at Sea, but never Darknes ; and I
 shall never wonder to see a hard World,
 because I have lived to see the Sun a
 Bankrupt, being ready to starve for
 cold in his perpetual Presence. A Man's
 Companions are (like Ships) to be kept
 at Distance, from falling foul one of ano-
 ther. That the fairest Field for a roam-
 ing Head is the Sea, where he may run
 himself out of Breath, and his Humour
 out of him too. Though a Ship
 under Sail be a good Sight, yet it is bet-
 ter to see her moor'd in the Haven,
 after having made a good Voyage.
 Here I cast Anchor.

News

News from FRANCE.

IT is believ'd from *France*, that the best of Friends there, is like their Wines: The new being hard and harsh prove best; the most pleasing, are least lasting. A penetrating Judgment may enter into a Man's Mind by his Body's Gate; if that appears affected, apish, and unstable, a Wonder if the other be settled!

Vain-Glory, new Fashions, and the *French* Disease, are upon Terms of quitting their Country's Allegiance to be made free Denizens of *England*. The Wounds of an antient Enmity have their Scars, which cannot be so well closed to the Sight, but they will lie open to the Memory. A Prince's pleasurable Vices, usher'd by Authority, and waited on by Connivance, sooner punish themselves by the Subjects Imitation, than they can be reformed by Remon-

Remonstrance or Correction ; so apt are all ill Examples to rebound on them that give them. Kings hear Truth oftener for the Tellers, than their own Advantage.

News from Spain to MIST.

THE shortest Cut to the Riches of the *Indies*, is by Contempt. It more vexes the proud, that Men despise them, than that they do not fear them. Greatness is fruitful enough, when other Helps fail, to beget on itself Destruction. It is a gross Flattering of Cruelty, to honour it with the Title of Clemency. To eat much at other Mens' Cost, and little at our own, is the wholesomest and most nourishing Diet, both in Court and Country. Those are aptest to domineer over others, who by suffering Indignities, have learned to offer them. Ambition, like a silly Dove

Dove, flies up to fall down. Galley-Slaves setting light by their Captivity find Freedom in Bondage. To be slow in Military Affairs, is to be so courteous as to give the Way to an Enemy.

News from Rome to MIST.

THOSE should be held henceforth his Holiness's beneficial Friends, that sin upon Hope of Pardon. Where Vice is a State-Commodity, he is an Offender that does not often offend. Greatness comes not down by the Way it went up, there being often but a small Distance between the highest and the lowest Fortunes. Rack'd Authority is oft less regarded at Home than Abroad; while Things that seem, are (commonly) more feared afar off than at hand.

News

News from Germany to MIST.

TH E infectious Vice of drunken Good-Fellowship, is like to stick by this Nation, as long as the Multitude of Offenders so benum the Sense of offending, as that a common Blot is held no Stain. Many noble Spirits lie buried in their Wants; who, had they Means equal to their Minds, would dare as much as those that with their better Fortunes over-top them. *German* Discretion must be taken by Weight, not by Tale; who doth otherwise, shall both prove his own too light, and fall short of his Reckoning. The Empire of *Germany*, is not more great, than that over a Man's own self.

News

News from Roan to MIST.

THAT one of the surest Grounds of a Man's Liberty, is not to give another Power over it. The most dangerous Plunge to put thine Enemy to, is Desperation ; while forcing him to set light by his own Life, thou makest him Master of thine. Neglected Danger lights soonest and heaviest. They are wisest, who in a likelihood of Good, provide for Evil. Since Pity dwells at the next Door to Misery, he that liveth most at Ease is a Neighbour to Envy.

D

Mr.

MIST to the B - - - of R - - CH - - R.

THE best Prospect is to look inward. It is quieter sleeping with a good Conscience than a whole Skin. A Soul in a fat Body lies soft, and is loth to rise. He must rise betimes who would cozen the Devil. Policy is the unsleeping Night of Reason. He who sleeps in the Cradle of Security, sins soundly without starting. Guilt is a Scorpion to Conscience. No Man is so thoroughly awaked, as by Affliction. a hang'd Chamber in private, is nothing so convenient, as a hang'd Traytor in publick. The Life of most Women is walking in their Sleep, and they tell their Dreams. Chambering is counted a civiller Quality than playing at Tables in the Hall, though

though Serving-Men use both. The best Bed-Fellow for all Times in the Year, is a good Bed without a Fellow. He who tumbles in a calm Bed, hath his Tempest within. He who will rise, must first lie down, and take Humility in his Way. Sleep is Death's Picture drawn to the Life. In Sleep we kindly shake Death by the Hand ; but when we are awake, we will not know him. Often Sleepings are so many Tryals to die, that at last we may do it perfectly. Few dare write the true News of their Chamber ; and I will have none secret enough to tempt any one's Enquiry, or a Servant's Discovery. To be good is the Way to be mostly alone ; your Example is not likely to be taken. Most fear the World's Censure more than they endeavour to deserve a good Name. A Court Friend seldom goes further than the first Degree Charity. The Devil is a perfect Courtier. Innocency was first

Cousin to Man, now Guilt hath the nearest Alliance. Time can never be spent ; we pass by it, and cannot return. None can be sure of more Time than an Instant. Sin makes Work for Repentance, or the Devil. Honesty in Courts lives in Persecution, like Protestants in *Spain*. Predestination and Constancy are alike uncertain to be judged of. Virtue's Favour is better than a King's Favourite. Being sick, begins a Suit to God ; being well, possesseth it. Health is the Coach that carries to Heaven, Sicknefs the Post-Horse. Worldly Delights to one in extream Sicknefs, is like a high Candle to a Blind Man. Absence doth sharpen Love, Presence strengthens it : The one brings Fuel, the other blows till it burns clear. Love often breaks Friendship ; Friendship ever encreaseth Love. Constancy of Women, and Love in Men, is alike rare. Art is Truth's Juggler. Falshood

hood plays a larger Part in the World than Truth. Blind Zeal, and lame Knowledge, are alike apt to ill. Fortune is humblest, where most contemn'd. Resolution keeps Fear out of brave Minds. The Face of Goodness, without a Body, is the worst Wickedness. A Man with only Female Wit, is the worst Hermaphrodite. A Man not worthy being a Friend, wrongs himself by being an Acquaintance. The worst Part of Knavery, is making good and ill seem alike.

Table-

Table-News from MIST *to*
BINGLFY.

IT is said among Folk, that if a Man die in his Infancy, he hath only broke his Fast in this World ; if in his Youth, he hath left us at Dinner. It is Bed-Time with a Man at Three-score and ten ; and he that lives to a hundred Years hath walked a Mile after Supper. A Fool at the upper End of the Table, is the Bread before the Salt. He that hates to be reprov'd, sits in his own Light. The sensible Man, and a quiet Woman, are the best Company. Repentance without Amendment, is but the Shifting of a foul Trencher. The Tongue of a Jester is the Fiddle that the Hearts of the Company dance to. The Tongue of a Fool carves a Piece of his Heart to every Man that sits near him. A silent Man is a Covered Mess. The content-
ted

ted Man only is own Carver. Wit without Discretion cuts other Men's Meat, and his own Fingers. The Soul of a chollerick Man sits ever by the Fire-side. The Epicure puts his Money into his Belly, and the Miser his Belly into his Purse. The Superfluity of a Man's Possessions, is the broken Meat that should remain to the poor. The envious keeps his Knife in his Hand, and swallows his Meat whole. A rich Fool amongst the wise, is a guilt empty Bowl amongst the thirsty. He that robs a Man of his Invention, bids himself Welcome, without Leave, to his Table. The vain-glorious Man pisseth more than he drinks. To surfeit upon Wit, is more dangerous than to want it. He that sins that he may repent, surfeits himself that he may take Physick. He that rises without Thanksgiving, is in Debt for his Dinner. He that begins to repent when he is old, never wash'd his

his Hands till Night. This Life is but one Day of three Meals, or one Meal of three Courses, Childhood, Youth, and Old-Age. To sup well, is to live well; and that's the Way to sleep well.

*Church-News from MIST to the
D. of W - - T - - N.*

SOME Christians wear the Name of Christ for a Charm, as others do the Cross : States use it more out of Policy than Inclination. Every one looks to another, but not to himself; and go so by Throngs to Heaven, that it is to be feared they take the broader Way. The Church is in the World, like a Ship in the Sea : The Elect in the Church, like *Jonas* amongst the Mariners. We have contended so long about the Body of Religion, that some Men think it is dead : So Atheists are come into the Church; and it will be
as

as hard to cast them out as Devils: Those who have thus broken the Peace of the Church, are obliged to make Satisfaction. A pure Bishop is the best Governor, if the Pride of our Side would let them be quiet. All Controversies for the most part leave the Truth in the Middle, and are factious at both Ends: The Church hath this good by them, they cleanse the Way for others, but not for themselves. Sincerity in the Cause of Truth, is more worth than Learning. The Idols of these Times are Covetousness, Pride, Gluttony, Wantonness, Heresies, the abandoning the Church, and serving of ourselves. We must make all Time an Occasion of Amendment, because the Devil makes it an Occasion to tempt. Thus the Understanding and Will, which is the whole Soul of Man, is made up again, and sanctifies the Body.

Bed News from MIST to Miss ---

TH E Bed is the best Rendezvous for a fat Man, and the most necessary Ornament of a Chamber. Soldiers are good Antiquaries in keeping the old Fashion; for the first Bed was the bare Ground. A Man's Pillow is his best Counsellor. *Adam* lay in State when the Heaven was his Canopy: The naked Truth of which is, *Adam* and *Eve* lay without Sheets: They were either very innocent, very ignorant, or very impudent; for they were not ashamed Heaven should see them lie without a Coverlet. It is likely *Eve* studied Astronomy, which makes the Posterity of her Sex ever since love to lie on their Backs. The Circumference of the Bed is nothing
fo

so wide as the Convex of the Heavens, yet it contains a whole World. The five Senses are the greatest Sleepers. A slothful Man is but a reasonable Dormouse. The Soul ever awakes to watch the Body. A jealous Man sleeps Dog-Sleep. Sleep makes no Difference between a wise Man and a Fool. At all Times Sleep is the best Bedfellow. The Devil and Mischief are ever awake. Love is a Dream. The preposterous Hopes of ambitious Men are, like pleasing Dreams, farthest off when awake. The Bed pays *Venus* more Custom than all the World beside. If Dreams and Wishes had all been true, there had not been since Popery one Maid to make a Nun of. The secure Man sleeps soundly, and is hard to be awak'd. The charitable Man dreams of building Churches; but starts to think the ungodlier Courtier will pull them down

again. Sleepers were never dangerous in a State. There is a good Reason why Popish Priests chuse the Bed to confess their Women upon; for they hold it necessary that Humiliation should follow Shrift. If the Bed should speak all it knows, it would put many to the Blush. It is fit the Bed should know more than Paper.

*News from MIST on Shipboard to
Captain JOHNSON.*

R Epentance without Amendment, is like continual Pumping without mending the Leak. He that lives without Virtue, sails without a Compass. The Wantonness of a peaceful Commonwealth, is like the Playing of the Porpis before a Storm. The Fool
is

is Sea-sick in a Calm ; but the wise Man's Stomach endures all Weathers. Passions in a Fool are Ordnance broken loose in a Storm, that alter their Property of offending others, and ruin himself. Good Fortunes are a soft Quicksand, Adversity a Rock; both equally dangerous. Virtue is in Poverty a ready rigg'd Ship, that lies Wind-bound. Good Fashion in a Man, is like the Pilot in a Ship, that does most with least Force. A Fool's Tongue is like the Buoy of an Anchor; you shall find his Heart by it wheresoever it lies. Wisdom makes use of the Crosses of this World, as a skilful Pilot of Rocks, for Sea-marks, to sail by.

Fire-

*Fire-Side News from MIST to a
Brother Printer.*

WIT is Brushwood, Judgment Timber; the one gives the greatest Flame, the other yields the durablest Heat; and both meeting, makes the best Fire. Bawds and Attorneys are Handirons, that hold up their Clients till they burn each other to Ashes. A wise rich Man is like the Back of the Chimney, and his Wealth like the Fire; he receives it not for his own Use only, but to reflect the Heat to others Good. House-keeping in *England* is falling from a great Fire in a hot Summer's Day, to Boughs in the Chimney all Winter long.

long. Man's Reason in Matter of Faith is Fire; in the first Degree of his Ascent Flame, next Smoke, and then nothing. A young Fellow fallen in Love with a Whore, may be said to be fallen asleep in the Oven. He that leaves his Friend for his Wenck, forsakes his Bed, to sit up and watch a Coal. The covetous rich Man only freezes before the Fire. Chaste Beauty is like the Bellows, whose Breath is cold, yet makes others burn. He that expounds the Scriptures upon the Warrant of his own Spirit only, lays the Brands together without Tongs, and is sure at last to burn his own Fingers. The Lover keeps a great Fire in his House all the Year long. Devotion, like Fire in frosty Weather, burns hottest in Affliction. Those that fly the World for the Trouble of it, lie in Bed all Day in Winter, to spare Fire-wood. A covetous

tous Man is a Dog in a Wheel, that
toils to roast Meat for other Mens Eat-
ing. A wise Man's Heart is like a
broad Hearth, that keeps his Passions
from burning the House. Good Deeds
are Coals raked up in Embers, to make
a Fire next Day.

F I N I S.



